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338CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Volkspolizei Troops at Oranienburg

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1. The equipment of the Volkspolizei troops in the Oranienburg Barracks on Bernauerstrasse has been added to and modernized. On 20 Oct 53 the regiment had 24 heavy tanks and 36 S/P gun carriages for three-man crews. This is an increase of 14 tanks and 16 S/P gun carriages since 27 May 53. Besides, the old T-34 tanks have been replaced by new Stalin I and II types. The regiment now has only two T-34 tanks left, which are used for training purposes.
2. The artillery equipment has also been improved. The 150mm heavy field howitzers have been taken away and replaced by lighter, newer model guns mainly of 76mm and 122mm caliber. There are about 18 of these guns at the present time. There are also two 20mm former German army guns.
3. A cable and tool carrier has been added to the signal equipment. The number of Soviet advisers has been increased to six. There are about 300 officers quartered in the barracks.
4. There are now 4 armored ammunition trucks and several armored reconnaissance cars stationed at Oranienburg which came here from Rostock. It is said that they came to Rostock by sea.

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